WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for monitoring a first person requiring supervision, comprising:

a controller programmed to receive at least one monitor signal from an environment monitor located in a monitored zone;

said controller being programmed to classify at least one alarm condition threatening to said first person responsively to said environment monitor to produce class data; and

said controller being programmed to generate an alarm signal responsively to said class data, said alarm signal including at least a portion of said monitor signal at least one of immediately prior to or immediately after an incidence of said alarm condition.

2. A device as in claim 1, wherein said at least one monitor signal includes at least one of a still image, video, and audio data.

3. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is programmed to recognize faces and said alarm condition is responsive to one of a recognition of a face or a failure to recognize a face.

4. A device as in claim 3, wherein said controller is programmed to solicit an action by an occupant, said monitor signal being responsive to said action by said occupant.

5. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is programmed to solicit an action by an occupant, said monitor signal being responsive to said action by said occupant.

6. A device as in claim 1, wherein said controller is programmed to recognize a speaker's voice, said alarm signal being responsive to one of a recognition of said speaker's voice and a failure to recognize said speaker's voice.

7. A device as in claim 1, wherein said at least one monitor signal includes a detector configured to detect a lapse in breathing by said person.

8. A device as in claim 1, wherein said alarm signal includes at least a portion of said monitor signal immediately prior to and immediately after an incidence of said alarm condition.

9. A device as in claim 1 wherein said alarm signal includes at least one of an audio signal, text data signal, and a video signal.

10. A monitoring system for monitoring the environment of a person requiring supervision, comprising:

a controller connected to receive at least one signal from at least one sensor;

said at least one sensor generating first and second signals responsive to a first state of a caretaker of said person and a second state of said person, respectively;

said controller being programmed to generate a first alarm signal when said first state is outside a first specified range and to generate a second alarm signal when said second state is outside a second specified range.

11. A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said first alarm signal includes a sample of at least one of said first and second signals.

12. A monitoring system as in claim 10, wherein said controller is programmed to generate a message to solicit an action by said caretaker signal when said first state is outside said first specified range.

13. A method of monitoring a person requiring supervision, comprising the steps of:

generating a first signal indicative of a status of a person or said person's environment;

detecting an event requiring the attention of a remote supervisor;

transmitting at least a portion of said first signal to said remote supervisor responsively to a result of said step of detecting.

14. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of transmitting includes transmitting an electromagnetic signal including at least one of audio, video, and text data.

15. A method as in claim 13, wherein said person is an infant and said step of detecting includes detecting a lapse of breathing of said infant.

16. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes detecting at least one of an audio signal and video signal and classifying a predefined pattern in said at least one of an audio signal and a video signal.

17. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes detecting behavior of a person other than said child and in said child's environment.

18. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes at least one of recognizing a face of said person or another, classifying a body habitus of said person, classifying a physiognomy of said person, detecting a speed of movement of said person or another, detecting a number of persons in an occupied zone, and recognizing a voice signature, said steps of recognizing, classifying, and detecting being automatic machine processes.

19. A method as in claim 13, wherein said step of detecting includes detecting a failure of at least one of a movement of said person or another to move, speak, or generate any other detectable activities.